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By The Way

Collected Notes And Comment
By John Griffin

Jobless Coup Leader

What do you do with a coup leader who is, at least temporarily, out of style at home? Maybe keep him on tap.

Columnist Andrew Tully reports from Singapore that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency has this problem with right-wing Laotian General Phoumi Nosavan who flopped in a recent coup attempt but before that was important in U.S. activities in Laos.

Citing "intelligence sources" in Singapore (possibly British who don't like Phoumi that much), Tully writes:

"The CIA, it is said, is against plans to exile the general to some spot outside Southeast Asia because he's the CIA's man. Our top intelligence is reported desperately anxious to keep Phoumi Nosavan around against the day when it may be necessary to engineer a change in the Vientiane regime."

CPYRGHT